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The Organ of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

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Start of Our Maternity Unit for the Relief of Refugees in Russia.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.—Owing to war-time conditions it is now impossible to have as much matter set up on Wednesdays as we have hitherto been able to do. We therefore beg that articles and letters should be sent in not later than Tuesday morning, first post.

Photo by London News Agency.]

MEMBERS OF OUR RUSSIAN UNIT.

Sister Cordner, Sister Womald Sister Denholm, Sister Joyce,
Miss Knight, Miss Hutchinson, Dr. Coxon, Miss Roberts (Matron).

Start of Our Maternity Unit for Relief of Refugees in Russia.

The Russian Unit has really started! The excitement was maintained to the last by the unfortunate illness of Dr. May, who returned from a so-called holiday with influenza, which was not improved by a lengthy visit to the Permit Office. Not until noon on Saturday, the day of departure, did we know definitely, after a thorough medical examination, that she would be allowed to travel.

Miss Franklin, who went to Newcastle to see them off, brought back the good news that all were safely on board with bag and baggage. Her last impression was the sight of Dr. Coxon, Miss Knight, and Miss Hutchinson, standing in the moonlight on the deck of the *Bessheim*, waving farewells and shouting reassuring messages that Dr. May was in bed and none of the luggage was lost.

From Christiania they go to Stockholm, round the Gulf of Bothnia to Harparanda, the last town on Swedish territory, then by an all-too-short sleigh journey to Tornea, in Finland, and on by train to Petrograd, which they may reach in seven or eight days.

On the 27th the Committee gave an informal reception to members of the Unit, at which the uniforms were on view and photographs were taken. The leather-coats, lined with sheepskin, are good enough to defy any climate; in contour the wearers bear a remarkable resemblance to Tweedledum and Tweedledee in battle array.

The party went off in the best of spirits, all keen to be at work. Mrs. Fawcett, Miss Sterling, Mrs. Russell, various friends, and as many as possible of the Staff of the Office went to the station to see them off. In the turmoil of Saturday traffic at King's Cross it was difficult to say any of the things one would have wished to say, but if good wishes can speed them on their way they should have a safe and happy journey.

A further budget has been received from Russia, dated January 1st and January 8th, after Miss Moberly and Miss Thurstan had returned from Moscow. Miss Thurstan writes: "Moscow is quite the most progressive town in Russia and the best organised, so that, though the pressure of refugees is heavy there, they are coping with it. . . . They have a soup-kitchen at one of the railway stations, where refugees are arriving daily. . . . This is all done out of doors with an army field-kitchen. They have a choice of soups and black bread. It means enormous devotion to go on doing this in the bitter weather we have had. They have also a convalescent home and a log-house, a sort of feeding station. The Moscow Town Council have now built a beautiful model village about two miles out of Moscow.

"What they would really like would be two or three very good English sisters to instruct and train some of the refugee women."

But though Moscow is making valiant efforts, the plight of the refugees in more remote places, where resources have already been used up, is desperate. Miss Moberly emphatically asserts that there is no limit to the need, the only limit is what we are able to undertake.

They have paid another visit to Gatchina, where Miss Thurstan had organised a little Christmas fête for the children.

During every spare moment she has been making and filling bags, and each child received a bag containing a few sweets and biscuits, and either a penny toy, a handkerchief, or a hair-ribbon. The children were delighted with their treat. The overcrowding at Gatchina is rather less now, some of the better-to-do families have clubbed together and moved into flats. But lung trouble and tuberculosis are rife, besides infectious diseases, and two or three children die every day.

Interviews with Representative Women.

VIII.—DR. MABEL MAY, Senior Medical Officer of Our Maternity Unit for the Relief of Refugees in Russia.

Dr. May, who is going out in charge of our Unit for the Relief of Refugees in Russia, was with Mrs. St. Clair Stobart's Surgical Hospital at Kragujevatz. At this hospital civilians, as well as soldiers, were attended, as at the time when it was started there was a lull in the fighting. Often as many as eighty or 100 out-patients a day were admitted, and the wards for women and children were kept very full.

"The people were just beginning to trust us, and to come to us from long distances," Dr. May told me, in the course of a most interesting talk about her experiences, "when the fighting broke out again, and we were kept busy with the work we were sent out to do, as a surgical Unit. So we were obliged to drop our out-patient department, much to our disappointment, as we got very fond of our patients, and longed to do more for them.

"The peasant classes in Serbia are splendid—straightforward and simple, and very clean, both in their clothes and person. The vermin, of which so much has been written, are, I think, largely due to the mud huts in which the people live.

"While the men have been fighting—as they have been on and off for the last three years—the women have kept the farms going in a wonderful way; and they keep their homes clean, too, according to their own standard, though their ideas of sanitation are extraordinarily primitive.

"They work extremely hard, and have very little comfort in their lives. As a rule they have had enough to eat and enough to wear; but there has been an entire dearth throughout the country of everything that is not a bare necessity of life.

"In the intervals of other work the women make their own homespun and their own underclothes. They do this in a very casual sort of way, working at it by fits and starts, but somehow or other—sooner or later—it gets done.

"Since the last invasion the people have, of course, suffered terribly, especially in the towns, where many are literally starving, the towns having been swept bare first by the retreating Serbians and then by the invaders.

"Of course, when the invading armies neared Kragujevatz we had to evacuate the hospital, greatly to our grief; and we had already had to give up the six dispensaries which Mrs. Stobart had started in the villages round, with a doctor and one or two nurses in each. These were doing a good work, though much handicapped for lack of beds, as many of the cases could only be satisfactorily dealt with in hospital. Conditions in the villages do not lend themselves to the proper care of the sick, and the Serbian women have no idea of nursing.

"Nursing, as a profession, scarcely exists in the country. There are a few women doctors and dentists, and, as far as I can gather, there is no feeling against women entering into any of the professions, but the lack of educational facilities makes this very difficult.

"Until the women are educated there is no hope of further progress for Serbia. On the one hand, there are the upper-class women, who are almost Oriental; and, on the other hand, the over-burdened peasants—splendid material, but with no time for anything beyond the immediate wants of their family. There is practically no middle class. Serbia is a most democratic country—a land of sturdy peasant proprietors—and a man can rise to any height if he has it in him. Some of the best officers in the Serbian army have been farmers. But for the women, there is nothing beyond the day's grind. Their lot has indeed been a hard one for the last few years, as while their men-folk have been away fighting they have had to bear a double burden.

"One of the things which struck us most as a result of the constant state of warfare, was the dearth of babies. Very few little children were brought to our out-patient department; indeed, we hardly ever saw any. There were plenty of children of ten or twelve years old, but hardly any babies."

Dr. May went on to tell me how, when the fighting began again, Mrs. Stobart had taken a field hospital to the front. "The remainder of the Unit, together with the dispensaries as they were called in, remained in Kragujevatz, and in three weeks attended to more than 1,000 wounded. Then news came that the Germans were very near, and that the town was to be bombarded. Greatly against the wishes of everyone, but acting on the advice of the British Commissioner and the orders of the Serbian military authorities, the Unit prepared to evacuate Kragujevatz. Dr. Tchartchin, of the Sanitary Section, looked after us and accompanied us on the trek. Had it not been for his great kindness and devotion I am sure many of us would never have won through.

"We had great difficulty in getting any means of transport, and were obliged to leave in detachments. By means of two motors, borrowed from the French Mission, a small party at a time was taken and left one stage on the journey, while the cars returned for another batch. Then the first party was taken a stage further, followed by the next in turn, and so on, till at last we all assembled at Raska. Here we had hoped to start a dressing-station, but there was no room, and we had to push another stage to Mitrovitza.

"At Mitrovitza only one motor was left. One had broken down entirely, and different parts had been used to patch the

other up. Dr. Tchartchin had got ox-waggons for us, in which we had packed all our belongings, while we ourselves trudged on foot.

"Another stage or so further on we had to abandon the waggons, and our goods and chattels were transferred to ponies—those, at least, which we did not carry on our person. Cups, knives, and forks, and other valuables, we attached to our belts for safety. We were a very predatory Unit, and anything left about was liable to be appropriated by some other member.

"One of our members—an extremely learned lady, reputed to know the whole of Euripides by heart—who had joined as a laundry-maid, went so far as to wear her entire wardrobe—three skirts of different lengths, showing one beneath another—and to hang herself about with a perfect museum of miscellaneous utensils. We owe her a deep debt of gratitude for the amusement her appearance never failed to cause.

"Moving in the midst of a tragedy that, looking back, seems like a nightmare, any little joke was seized upon as a welcome relief. I well remember how on one occasion, when things were rather getting on our nerves, a mysterious figure stepped out of the shadows into the glow of the camp-fire, with a rattle and clank, hung round with what at first sight looked like fearsome weapons of war. Then, with a burst of laughter, we suddenly recognised our well-equipped friend the laundry-maid.

"We had a party of thirty soldiers with us as escort and to act as orderlies, and at night they used to make a fire for us and catch a sheep and roast it. It is strange how quickly we got used to this sort of existence. Indeed, one of our members, when she reached England, confided to me a fear that if she felt cold she might find herself breaking up the drawing-room furniture and lighting a fire in the middle of the carpet.

"I think the recollection that will stand out most vividly in our memories of this terrible journey will be crossing the Plain of Kossovo in a blinding blizzard, the cold being so intense that our hair used to hang in icicles. I can see now the winding path going on and on, with the endless stream of men and horses and guns ahead of us. We, ourselves, were in covered carts at the time. Men, horses, and oxen, were lying frozen on the road.

"One of the most trying features of this stage of the journey was that there were no bridges over the rivers. Often the soldiers had to wade waist-deep in the water. It took us twelve hours to cross the plain, and after that came endless mountains.

"The whole journey must have been about 300 miles. It took us nearly eight weeks, sometimes going very slowly, owing to the roughness of the ground, and sometimes getting along at a fair pace. Towards the last we all flagged much sooner, chiefly because we could not get enough to eat; but on the whole our health was wonderfully good. Some of the party got dysentery, but, wonderful to say, in spite of all our hardships, they got better before we got to the journey's end. The worst case among us was that of one of the nurses who got blood-poisoning. She must have suffered agony, but was extraordinarily plucky over it.

Dr. Mabel May.

"Of course, we did what we could for the soldiers on the way. The nurses even tore up their own undergarments for bandages. I can't say enough about the pluck of all my party; they were simply splendid, always making the best of things, and seizing on the faintest gleam of humor in any situation. And in the midst of the grim tragedy there were many funny incidents, which fortunately took our thoughts for a time away from the nightmare of it all.

"We put up in many queer resting-places, and contrived to get a good deal of fun out of our novel experiences. Often we slept out in the open round a fire. Sometimes we slept in a barn. On one occasion we were entertained in the harem of an elderly Turk, the whole household being vastly interested in us and full of curiosity.

"Our daily ablutions were a source of much care and contrivance, and not a few alarms, but they were absolutely necessary to prevent getting infested with insects. On the coldest day we used to find some sheltered stream and wash ourselves and our garments, of which we each carried one change.

"The worst part of the journey, I think, was crossing the high Montenegrin hills. By that time the supply of food had run very short. The soldiers had not enough to eat for themselves, and the prisoners were starving, though the Serbians were really wonderfully good to them. Sometimes, when we were eating our little ration of black bread, the poor wretches would come and stand round and pick up the crumbs.

"How thankful we were to find ourselves at last on board ship, and then, after various adventures *en route*, to reach our native land, which we had sometimes almost despaired of ever seeing again."

M. M.

News from our Serbian Unit.

Letter from an Orderly who is a Prisoner of War.

"Who would have thought that I should ever be a prisoner of war, but such is indeed the case; wonders will never cease! Perhaps I had better wish you all a Happy Christmas and *Bright* New Year, and when you eat turkey and plum pudding and mince pies, you can think of me not having any supper.

"Talking about shoes, I am wearing a pair that were really meant for somebody's uncle. They are seven in men's size, and are filled up with uncle's socks, but splendid for the snow. Two days ago we had the first fall, and it was very cold; to-day it is thawing quickly.

"Well, this is a fashionable watering place—a spa folded in the hills, and very pretty, with an extensive view. We move again in a few days. I am quite excited about writing a letter! but it is very difficult not to show your hand. At present we are working in a Serbian hospital. I am an orderly; this is my day: rise at 6.30, dress, and make breakfast for Miss —— and self, do our room, and go to hospital—ten minutes' walk—sweep and dust wards and corridors, and scrub sometimes. Do odd jobs till 12.30, when we return to our room and have dinner—stew and bread, sugar and cocoa; 2 p.m., return to hospital, wash dirty bandages, and roll clean ones, and do the lamps and oddments till 4.30, when we go back for tea—bread and sugar and jam (just now). Then we light our fire with sticks we have picked up in our off-time, and, in turn, we have a good wash in our basin. I generally have a sleep till supper, at seven—stew and sausages, bread and sugar, sometimes tea; bed very soon after, generally about nine. Unfortunately, we have no books to read. That is my day. Saturday: day off, when we generally scrub our floor and do a washing. The Unit is all together. More and more I am lost in admiration of Dr. Hutchison. She is A1 in every possible way. We are all living in an empty house, so many in each room. Miss —— and I are together, and we sleep in a single bed, heads and tails on a wire-mattress with folded rugs; no hair-mattress, and it is quite comfortable. We have a washstand, wardrobe, and table in our room, which is covered with my tartan rug, and two chairs. The room is very sunny, with two windows. We all eat in our own rooms; we make our own breakfast and tea, and at dinner and supper a huge pot is carried round, and we all get helped, so that we eat, sleep, and live in one room. The hospital is in another building. I am reduced to my golfing hat for everything; that is all between me and a 'shawl' over my head! A candle lasts two nights, and a box of matches many mornings.

"You must not be anxious about me—I am 'fine.' Some day you will enjoy it all with me. You cannot imagine how often I think of you all, and long to hear."

Margaret H. Kerr.

At Royaumont.

January 13th was marked in our calendar as yet another anniversary; it was on January 13th, a year ago, that we admitted our first patients—six of them, late at night. Ever since then the work at Royaumont has gone on—steadily and without a break. We have been luckier, in some respects, than our sister units: no move, no emergency has hitherto suspended our labours, no misfortunes of war have interfered with the primary purpose of our existence—the tending of the sick and wounded. We live, it is true, on the edge of a volcano, but we only hear the mutterings we have long since ceased to wonder at.

It may seem ridiculous to draw conclusions from particular experiences in one small corner of France; but surely, if history goes for anything, there can have been very few alliances as whole-hearted as that between England and France of to-day. The weakness of former alliances has usually been mutual distrust; nations that have fought side by side against a common enemy have frequently been united only by fear of that common enemy. The bond between France and Britain must be something stronger than that, or our men would not be so ready to make friends with us from the moment they enter our doors. There is no initial distrust to get over, no process of breaking down reserve; from the first they take it that we mean them well, just as they mean well to us. . . . And the fifteen hundred men who have come to us in that spirit are unlikely to be fifteen hundred exceptions to the general spirit of their countrymen.

Cicely Hamilton.

The Lights of Chester.

When the lamplighters of Chester went to the war, or to munitions, or otherwise quitted their job, there was a period during which the work of seeing to the lights was given to youths. To these boys the pay was acceptable, and, the being on the road, at first pleasing. But gradually the worthy seigneurs of the City Lighting Committee found themselves bombarded by complaints from many sides. A strayed reveller would miss the accustomed light to guide him to his hearthstone, and, as he groped amongst elusive gate-posts, would curse the lighting arrangements of the city. Nervous ladies would find their favourite path home to Dee Banks suggestive of the ninth plague, and write to the papers to say so; whilst thrifty housewives, busy about their duties and economising with both hands, lifted keen-sighted eyes towards noontime to see street-lamps still burning, and blushed with patriotic shame at the tale of municipal waste, which they afterwards recounted to their husbands, brothers, sisters, cousins, and aunts. It was no use ringing up the electricity works, where a voice of weary politeness thanked one for the information. Someone at the Town Hall was reported to have stated that the cost of a lamp burning for twenty-four hours was merely a penny; and why grow grey hairs about that?

Still, people were not pleased, and high authorities grew tired of being grumbled at.

Women Lamplighters.

So, one Thursday in December, Chester put its prejudices into its pocket, and suddenly became the first English city with women-lamplighters. There are ten of them, and they each attend to about 100 lamps, making two rounds each day (about ten miles in all) to switch the lights on and off, and to make note of any repairs needed. Of course, the times for lighting-up vary, and a notice is put up weekly at the works to show what time the women are expected. On arriving, they manipulate with a key the machine which registers the punctuality or otherwise of the arrivant Lucy.

The hooked-sticks for reaching the switches are kept on pegs in the little white-washed women's room, which has been prepared for their use, with seats, lavatory, &c.

At one time the men-lamplighters were supplied with oilskins (I believe later it was a kind of military overcoat) for their work, but it seems they either did not like them or neglected to use them, so, although the authorities meditate supplying the women with oilskins and protective caps, they intend to make sure they will be favourably received and duly used for the right purpose before rashly laying out the ratepayers' money. If the modern Lucies are sensible women they will get and use their uniform.

The Question of Pay.

Then comes the question of pay. The remuneration is 10s. for a week of thirty hours, that is, four hours a day (about 1½ hour each round, and half an hour each time for reporting at headquarters afterwards), and a couple of hours' cleaning work to make up the thirty hours. The male lighters were paid from 14s. to 25s. per week, but, on the other hand, they worked more hours, undertaking repairs, &c., instead of being limited to the switching on and off of the street lights.

Of course, the women-lamplighters' 10s. a week must be taken in conjunction with some other work, such as a little shop, care of children or old people, or a house to keep, for it is poor pay to live on. But when the right girls get the job they like it—the fresh air, the walking, the variety—for there is a long "waiting-list" supplied from the lighters' own circles of friends. No married women are taken, and the Chester Lucies are not younger than twenty. It is work that might suit a youngish widow (pensioned) if she could leave any children with, say, a lodger whilst she was away.

Some Objections.

There are few occupations which have not some drawbacks. The Chester lights, except in the main thoroughfares, are supposed to be out by 11 p.m., but after that there is the journey to and from headquarters to report. The Borough Engineer, who is much interested in his experiment and predicts its continuing "after the war," wished to do away with this late report, but, on inquiry, it was found that a postcard posted after 11 p.m. would not arrive early enough to allow of repairs to defective lamps being set in hand with the necessary despatch. This second reporting is felt to be an objection to the work, but, so far, one has not heard that the girls, going quietly and promptly about their business, have been molested in any way. A uniform, too, will have its advantages.

Some of the women who started lamplighting have given it up on account of tender feet, but a bright, burly Lucy, talking to me, said she found salt and water "champion" for that. The British Army is reported to march on its stomach, but ordinary people walk on their feet, and it would be to the general advantage if everyone would take pains to keep these in good trim.

Meanwhile, the local papers have reported that Chester's women-lamplighters are doing "quite well," and the indignant ratepayer has ceased troubling, and remarks, "For this relief much thanks!" which is very cheering, for we have all of us during the past year found many places void of light.

An Old Motto.

There is a castle in Brittany where one reads in stone an old motto, that of the Trémouilles. Those who know their Lancashire will remember that Charlotte (wife of James, the seventh Earl of Derby and first Mayor of Free Liverpool), the fighting countess, who defended very gallantly Lathom House for four months against the Parliamentarians, was a Trémouille of the old Breton family. Their motto is: "Post tenebras, spero lucem." It may apply to other things as well as to the lights of Chester—to the time when, after the hell of war, we hope to emerge *a riveder' le stelle*.

T. O.

Correspondence.

MARTHA AND MARY.

MADAM,—The "Martha and Mary" problem raised by your correspondent in the issue of January 28th is a peculiarly interesting one, and one which, in the near future, will have to be solved—since women *must* now work both in and out of the home. The necessity will arise of determining which of us is fitted to stay at home and which to work outside.

Having been in my time both a Mary and a Martha, my sympathies go out almost in equal proportions to both. That the little irritating, insistent thought about the kettle can spoil an evening's work I know, that the veriest trifle can upset the delicate balance of the mind attuned to a creative mood, I know also—and the thought once lost by that trifle never returns in all its sweetness and completeness; I know also the weariness of the return after a day of routine office work, and the conscience prick that forbids one to sit down and rest before the evening meal if there be a household job of some kind waiting to be done.

On the other hand, Martha gets weary, too, and her hours are longer than Mary's. Martha generally sees nobody but the tradespeople and the home folk from Monday to Saturday, and gets no intelligent interchange of ideas about her own work, which interests her, but in which no one else seems to take the slightest interest. For some inexplicable reason, too, Martha is expected to do her week's work for nothing at all. In nine cases out of ten no one dreams of paying the home sister for what she does. The servant is paid as a matter of course, but not Martha. She is boarded and clothed and lodged by the head of the house.

Now, until those of us who are Marys recognise and remedy this defect, we must and should be prepared to "put the kettle on at eleven for the theatre-goers," whatever it costs us in creative energy. Martha has to get up early to see about the breakfast for Mary, and she ought to go to bed in reasonable time.

What is really wanted is a little more sympathy and understanding between Martha and Mary, which in time will bring with it a greater consideration for each other's needs.

Much friction in the future will be avoided if parents study the individual capacities in their families with care and try to ascertain which are the daughters who can develop into Marys and which will be happier as Marthas. Then let the Marthas be trained for their work and *paid accordingly*. It is the only solution of the present unrest in family life. Martha is a very important person, if we could but recognise the fact, and when properly trained she will take a pride in keeping Mary's delicate nervous system in good working order. Mary will feel the consideration given to her, and will try to procure labour-saving devices as occasion permits to lighten the duller and less interesting portions of Martha's daily work.

I do not think this is an unrealisable ideal.

ALICE M. CHESTERTON.

FOOD ECONOMY IN WAR TIME.

MADAM,—The rapid development of the work of the National Food Reform Association since the outbreak of war, and particularly the ever-increasing demand for practical instruction in war-time housekeeping and for literature, has rendered an increased staff and office equipment unavoidable. The call for help comes not only from individuals of all sorts and conditions, but from many influential organisations and local authorities. The Association is also co-operating with the Parliamentary War Savings Committee and the Central Committee for National Patriotic Organisations.

Some 450 demonstration-lectures and meetings have been held during the twelve months ending December 31st, 1915, while those already fixed for 1916 number close upon 150. A steadily increasing interest in our teaching on account of war-time conditions is reported. The audiences, ranging from a dozen to two thousand women of every section of the community—wage-earners, social workers, professional cooks, and mistresses of households—come to learn economy with increased efficiency, and show great enthusiasm about the practical nature of the lectures. We are now arranging about twenty such demonstrations a week—many of them courses—and could find openings for many more if we had a larger office staff. We feel justified, therefore, in appealing for an Extension Fund to meet present needs, and to provide for inevitable developments, for while our membership is steadily growing and the receipts for sales of literature are daily increasing, we still need additional support to meet the unprecedented demands for our special war-time work.

We are confident that those who recognise the value of the educational and preventive work accomplished during the past eight years will rejoice at the national service the Association is able to render at this crisis, and will make a generous response. Help will be welcomed in any of the following ways:—

(*a*) Subscriptions or donations. (Cheques should be made payable to "National Food Reform Association," and crossed "Messrs. Barclay & Co. Ltd.")

(*b*) Orders for literature, especially for *Economical Dishes for Workers* (1d.), of which 50,000 copies have been called for during the war; *Hints Towards Diet Reform* (2d.), *Facts for Patriots*, three series (3d. each), *Fireless Cookery* (1d.), *Our Children's Health at Home and at School* (5s.), and *Rearing an Imperial Race* (7s. 6d.)

(*c*) Offers to arrange for drawing-room meetings or demonstration-lectures, single or courses.

(Signed)

MARGARET ASHTON.
HENRIETTA O. BARNETT.
LAUDER BRUNTON.
ROBERT HUTCHISON.
F. E. LACEY.
LEIGH.
LYTTON.
ISABEL MARGESSON.
GILBERT MURRAY.
WINIFRED PORTLAND.
HORACE PLUNKETT
B. SEEBOHM ROWNTREE.
BEATRICE WEBB.
BASIL WILBERFORCE (Archdeacon of Westminster).
G. SIMS WOODHEAD.
H. BECKETT-OVERY (Acting Chairman).

National Food Reform Association,
178, St. Stephen's House, Westminster.

GARROULD'S

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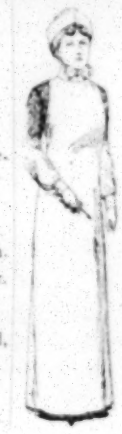

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Grey Wool	,,	6½d.
Absorbent Lint	,,	1/6, 1/10
Boric Lint	,,	1/4
Absorbent Gauze, 6-yard packets,	6d.,	7½d.
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Cellulose	,,	10½d.
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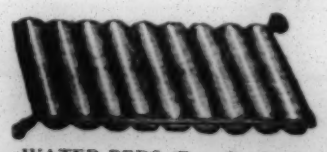

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The N.U.W.S.S. is an association of over 52,000 men and women who have banded themselves together, under the leadership of Mrs. Henry Fawcett, for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary vote for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. At this great national crisis, however, they have for the time suspended their ordinary political activities, in order to put themselves and their Union at the service of those who are organising the relief of distress caused by the war.

"A Piece of Sentimentalism."

We noted last week an utterance by a Liberal member of the House of Commons to the effect that "it was a piece of sentimentalism" to include women in the new tribunals under the Military Service Bill before which men unwilling or unable to serve in the Army are to show cause why they should be exempted. It would seem very desirable in every way that a mixed tribunal of men and women should consider these cases, in which interests of families or conscientious scruples and national interests conflict; a court of investigation so composed is more likely to arrive at the truth and take an impartial view of the obligations involved. But the interest or significance of Sir W. Essex's remark lies certainly not in its application but in the glimpse of light it lets in upon the obscure domains of puzzle-headed masculinism. It is obvious enough that very little "fundamental brainwork" went to the making of the observation. But then it is, and always has been, extremely difficult to the immense majority of men to think clearly, or to think at all, where women are concerned. The average male does not even wish to attempt it. "A pretty face, a pair of bright eyes are worth all the arguments in the world!" cried the unabashed eighteenth century. The Victorian age expressed the same thing a little differently. "The dear creatures are irresistible if they will cease to address themselves to our intellects and appeal to our hearts!" For the average male prefers to have his feelings worked upon. His plea is to be made to feel. He does not want to think. He has told us over and over again that he is positively incapable of the exertion. Men have not time, under pressure of urgent business, to pay any heed to the woman's point of view; they have not the knowledge—"women know about these things, we can't be expected to know"—and, lastly, they have not (in plain English) the patience, let alone the imagination, to "get understanding," and to set their brains to work. And because they can only feel and regard a woman sentimentally they assume that a woman is sentimentality incarnate, a being of feeling all compact; and to put a woman on a tribunal is, therefore, "a piece of sentimentalism."

For how many centuries the cry of the woman has been "Think! Think for us!" For how many ages the bewildered reply of the man has been "But my feelings do me credit. Appeal to my feelings! You will get all you want out of me by appealing to my feelings! Can't you *see* how to manage me?" Yet woman persists in her impossible demand for the alms of thought, though at present not one man in five thousand is able or willing to turn his imagination or set his mind to work upon women's lives, their problems, their outlook, their relation to the State.

Is it reasonable to expect any but a very small minority of men to think for us? We know that in family life it is usually the mother, and not the father, who does such thinking and planning as is done for the rising generation, for the sons' careers. Many and many a father will work for them all, and deny himself and spend himself in the effort to "provide" for his sons and daughters; but the father who will think for his children is a very rare exception. We know that in public life the woman's point of view, the woman's interests, have been and are persistently ignored. Patiently, good-humouredly, and politely, representations are made, deputations are received (or refused), services performed are called to mind. It all has been counted as nothing. The legislator is much too busy to "think" for women, or to remember women, except that some-

times, at the instance of male competitors, he agrees to impose restrictions or disabilities on the women bread-winners, lest his sex should suffer from the competition of the women who are jealously excluded from the trade union, and left to make such bargains with the employers as hunger dictates. And there are never wanting specious pleas that each restriction, each difficulty put in the way of earning a living is in the "truest interests" of the women themselves. For we are delivered into the hands of the sentimentalists, and the tender mercies of the sentimentalist are hard.

Have our legislators shown any wish to assure themselves that they represent women's interests? When has a member or prospective member of Parliament held a meeting for the women in his constituency? When has an audience been addressed with: "Ladies, since you have no votes and cannot express your views through the polling-booth, I am the more bound to make sure that I really represent you, to put my programme before you, and be certain that I carry you with me?" What member of Parliament would give a moment's serious consideration to a proposal of this kind? But from Denmark we are getting tidings of a new order of things.

In Denmark politicians and members of Parliament are busy holding meetings for the new women voters, and the women are attending meetings in preparation for the coming session! As the Premier of the Commonwealth of Australia told us in 1911, "the interest which men took in women's affairs, *when women had got the vote*, was wonderful." In Denmark, politicians are suddenly learning to think for women. But their education began After the vote was secured, not before!

Re-planning Our Lives.

X.—WE MUST BE MADE TO SAVE.

I am glad of the opportunity to say something on the subject of economy. The very startling assertion of one of the Under-Secretaries of the Government that we must all save half our incomes is, I think, in the opinion of most economists, absolutely correct. But the position in which we citizens are placed is one of the most anomalous and unintelligible things connected with the war. Just consider for a moment. For eight months past the Government has been "piling on the agony"—in words—about the imperative need for economy in all classes, ending with the terrific warning that half our normal expenditure must be stopped at once. And, meanwhile, the same Government has taken no single step worthy of notice to enforce the lesson. The Cabinet Ministers have not set the example themselves by halving their own salaries; they have not taken steps to check any of the expenditure, however extravagant and needless, of any well-to-do people, except by the imposition of an income-tax ranging from 12 per cent. to (in a few cases) 30 per cent. They have resolutely laid hands on the *lives* of young men for war; they have not laid hands on the superfluous motor-cars of the rich. Local authorities have set the magnificent example of economising in the education of children and the quality of stationery; and one Council has electrified us by cutting off the whole of its expenditure—on the full-stops and commas in its reports!

Is it any wonder that most citizens think the Government is really fooling us? Is it too much to say that the present situation is as grotesque as it is undoubtedly serious? Is it possible for any greater discouragement to be put in the way of individual self-denial than the certainty that nine out of every ten of our neighbours can afford to laugh at us, and that our own abstinences are doomed to be but a negligible drop in the big bucket of necessity?

As a consequence, we see two very unfortunate things happening. First, we are failing to realise the all-round seriousness of the national danger; secondly, we are falling into the very dangerous habit of shuffling the burden from our own to other people's shoulders. The former defect is not only due to the strange apathy of our rulers: it is also due to our general social habits of extravagance—always hard to break—and to the inevitable conspiracy of the entire trading world to *prevent* economy by increasing its efforts to tempt us to spend in proportion as any tendency *not* to spend begins to spread. The second defect is more dangerous. Nearly all well-to-do people are full of self-satisfied talk about the extravagance of the hand workers. I hold no brief for any class; but it is sun-clear (as Mr. Garvin would say) that of all classes the hand workers are the *last* to be attacked for their present spending. They *are* spending freely, I admit, but (*a*) much of their new expenditure is "constructively thrifty," *e.g.*, the purchase of furniture and extra food; (*b*) they, more than any other class, have sacrificed much of their scanty leisure to earn their higher wages; (*c*) in all their expenditure, even on cheap jewellery, they are but following the bad example set by us for generations; and (*d*) since they have been called upon to sacrifice most of their hard-won privileges connected with their work and work customs, it is not wise to irritate them further by a discharge of stones propelled from the shelter of our own glass-houses.

We, the more or less well-to-do people of the middle and upper classes, alone *can* economise to the extent of providing the gigantic sum needed for the war; and we alone can do this without loss of efficiency, without grave lowering of any life-standard that matters, and without generating any irritation that would hurt anyone but ourselves.

Turn to the question: How are we to save half our income? Here, I believe, no positive advice is possible beyond very narrow limits. But if there is any matter in which the old proverb holds "that necessity is the mother of invention," it is in this matter of cutting down expenditure. We still hold four-fifths of our income; we still have no embargo placed on any expenditure; we are still exposed to the adverse influence of the general social tone and practice. What happens? The really virtuous people, always a very small minority, are tearing themselves to tatters in their self-denying ordinances, going without all sorts of things, from tea to toothpowder, to the secret amusement of their friends and the detriment of their own virtuous tempers; while the rest of us are talking economy very loud and doing very little.

Now, anything that is to count must involve, as a minimum of abstinence, the following: First, doing without *at least* half our usual servants and service of all kinds; secondly, using no extravagant private means of locomotion, such as motors or taxi-cabs; thirdly, reducing expenditure on clothes, furniture, decorations, and amusements to one-fifth of the usual amount; fourthly, reducing our food bills to three-fifths—in spite of the higher prices; fifthly, arranging our home life in such a way as to halve the cost of coals, light, cleaning; and, lastly, cutting out four-fifths of our ordinary expenditure on odds and ends of all sorts, especially personal luxuries.

When we are *all* acting up to this standard we shall be taking the cost of the war seriously, but not before. And it is safe to say that not 5 per cent. of us will get anywhere near it without compulsion. We have, most of us well-to-do people, prayed for compulsion to be applied in the provision of men and munitions. Let us now continue the prayer with reference to compulsion in the provision of money.

E. J. Urwick.

XI.—WHAT THE CRAVING FOR LUXURY MEANS.

I am interested, writes a correspondent who has watched the Economy Campaign, in the evidence of a widespread feeling for simplicity of life or economy, or whatever other form that current of feeling comes to be called. I don't think that what we may call external pressure will effect much; the cause of extravagance lies too deeply in our natures; we all hate the drabness of ordinary life as one of the greatest evils. By ordinary life one means the daily round of duty, minus relaxation—the duty that finds us a living, and so forth. We try to relieve the drabness by all sorts of ways. The great mass of mankind find distraction in fine clothes, good eating, luxurious appointments, fine houses, entertainments, and the like. The smaller mass of humanity find relief in various forms of the theoretic life, æsthetic emotion, intellectual stimulus, love of natural beauty, and literary art.

The great mass find that the cry for economy at once cuts down all their joy in living, and leaves them only its drabness; naturally they resist, and only the pressure of some dominating necessity can have any effect, and that only for the time that stern necessity imposes the need.

The smaller mass, who take their pleasure in the theoretic life, can, fortunately, economise without much trouble; but they are too few in number to make them nationally important. Nevertheless, the only effective spread of a truly economic spirit must, I think, rest upon the spread of a truly-felt and practised theoretic life; and this theoretic life must not be only an intellectual appreciation of life and of human nature: it must include all the parts of our being—sensible, emotional, and intellectual.

J. W. C.

Co-operative Housekeeping.

Some Reflections and a Working Model.

By L. Keyser Yates.

After seventeen months of the great European conflict, one truth at least seems to have emerged in this country and to have been recognised by the intelligent classes left at home, namely, that if we are to meet the burdens imposed on civilians by warfare we must follow as our guiding stars Economy and the Simplification of Life. To carry out whole-heartedly this new scheme of existence we must, however, be prepared to take a further step, and to admit co-operation into the intimacy of the home.

There are some who will contend that co-operation is already an over-driven virtue (or vice), and, maybe, these will cite the production of a pin or a Dreadnought in evidence. Yet, while it is true that combined effort is the general rule in the factory or on the battlefield, in the British home it is, in the main, utterly despised. Nay, more, until the outbreak of the great war co-operation in the home has been successfully kept at bay. Almost any ordinary household in the land might be used as an illustration. For, generally speaking, does not the average home-keeper still garner, with much unnecessary trouble, his own little accumulation of paper, wood, matches, and coal in order that isolated heaps of warmth may be kindled merely for the gratification of his own family? And do we not also scorn co-operation with our neighbours in the matter of household cleaning, washing, and scrubbing, evidently preferring to observe these recurrent feasts of purification as individual offerings to British independence?

That co-operative effort has victoriously clutched the domestic lighting system and water supply in the towns is but an accident, a mere "sport" in the evolution of insular housecraft, since the principle of co-operation in domestic matters is still looked at askance in most of the strata of society. Among the industrial classes (*i.e.*, in the homes where domestic servants are not generally employed) mutual aid in home affairs is often deemed unthinkable, a commonly held tenet amongst the men being that any properly constituted wife could not endure the thought of any other hands than hers cooking for her lord and master. And in families somewhat higher up in the social scale, where habit has allowed the wife to depute some of her personal household services, the working-class theory has frequently only widened into the creed that it would be impossible for a man to forego his wife's personal organisation of the details of his household. The wastage in material goods and human energy occasioned by such a system is obviously great. It may perhaps be best exemplified by the consideration of but one household activity, cookery, as practised in any district where the humbler members of the community congregate. The present writer happened to be dwelling in such a neighbourhood, and inquired from several of the cottage householders, on one particular Sunday, what each had put into their oven for the mid-day meal. It may not be surprising to know that *one* good-sized oven would have cooked the food for the whole group.

Yet such districts—mostly with teeming populations—have wasted tons of fuel in their "independent" stoves, when the smallest amount of organising ability and mutual agreement would have effected an immense annual saving for the co-operators, and, indirectly, for the nation at large.

The great war has, however, sounded the knell for orgies of domestic individualism, since we shall soon be faced with the stern necessity for re-shaping our lives on better lines. In the days to come it is thus probable that the widespread British prejudice against co-operative housekeeping may be broken down, and that we shall at length introduce a saner and more joyous system of housecraft into our homes.

It may, therefore, be useful to record, while on the threshold of the new age, any successful experiments already in existence in this direction.

Such a model of co-operative housekeeping, for example, as that in use at Brent Garden Village, has much to offer us of encouragement and hope. The original scheme for this colony, as formulated by Mrs. Alice Melvin, provided for the erection of 123 houses, of various sizes, and three small quadrangles of flats round an historic mansion in Finchley—Brent Lodge. The proposition was that the residence should be converted into a nucleus for common use, where the cooking and serving of meals should mainly be carried out, recreation arranged, and a staff of competent domestic workers held in readiness for daily or hourly work in the surrounding households. The essential part of this scheme has been in successful working order since 1911; and the present writer, as a recent day-visitor to Brent Village, can testify to the excellence of the arrangements for recreation and meals.

At present there are fifty houses and twelve flats completed, standing in their own private gardens, round the nucleus, Central Hall. The tenants share at will the reading and recreation-rooms of the common residence. Meals are served for a small extra charge in any private house, but it is found that the residents usually prefer to engage a separate table in the central dining-room, where table d'hôte or à la carte meals can be ordered as required. The meals, including breakfast, lunch, tea, dinner, and supper, are well chosen and moderate in price; and not the least of the benefits accruing to the co-operative colony is that the vegetables and eggs are produced from the common estate.

During the pressure of war-work it has not been found possible to arrange for a central staff of domestic workers, but the success of the principle of mutual aid being assured in the village, this development of the scheme is not likely to be long deferred. Brent Village has, even at this stage of development, at least proved that numerous households can co-operate without "all living in a bunch," and that by removing the meals from the private kitchen and placing them on a co-operative basis for a group, an immense economy is effected, not only in material goods but in valuable human energy. The women—many of them workers in the outside world—are thereby largely set free from minor household duties to attend to more pressing national work.

Surely this is no mean result from so small an experiment. If it be urged by misogynists that the advantages reaped from co-operative housekeeping will all be enjoyed by the women, while the disadvantages (if any) will be the sole privilege of the men, let them recall Rudyard Kipling's reflection that—

> "You can lighten the curse of Adam
> *When you've lightened the curse of Eve.*"

LABOUR PARTY CONFERENCE.

At the Labour Party Conference, at Bristol, resolutions declaring the continued support of the party to the war and their continued opposition to all forms of militarism and conscription were carried by large majorities, and it was decided that the party representatives should keep their places in the Coalition Government. These decisions, which were taken by a card vote representing over two million organised workers, emphasise once more the overwhelming trend of national feeling. They were, of course, the most important business of the Conference, and resolutions on other subjects obtained but scant attention. A resolution demanding drastic revision of the Munitions Act was, however, passed without opposition, and resolutions dealing with war finance and taxation, workmen's compensation, secret trials, and public health were also discussed.

The Tenth Annual Conference of the Women's Labour League was also held in Bristol at the same time, and resolutions dealing with the same important subjects were discussed, at which a more extreme attitude with regard to the war was shown. This Conference also passed resolutions dealing with Women's Employment, Education, and Women's Suffrage.

THE CHURCH AND THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT.

Suffragists received with deep regret the news of the resignation of Dr. Percy Dearmer from St. Mary's, Primrose Hill. There are not too many leading Churchmen whose interest in the Women's Movement has been so sincere, so courageous, and so sustained. It was a crowded meeting which gathered together in St. Mary's Church-Room to pass resolutions of sympathy with Dr. Dearmer in the personal sorrows which have led him to sever his connection with them, of gratitude for his fifteen years' labours among them, and appreciation of his work in all its forms. It is hoped that Dr. Dearmer's absence from this country may not be prolonged. He is at present working with the Y.M.C.A. in France.

THE MEETING AT SUNDERLAND HOUSE.

Admittance will be *free* to the meeting at Sunderland House on February 10th, announced in our last issue.

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Mrs. Alys Russell is expecting to sail for New York on February 12th, and hopes to spend two months in America lecturing to Suffrage Societies on the War Work of the National Union, and particularly on the New Maternity Unit for Polish Refugees in Russia. She will be much obliged if readers of THE COMMON CAUSE will send her, to 11, St. Leonard's Terrace, Chelsea, S.W., the names and addresses of any of their friends in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Chicago, who would care to be invited to such lectures, mentioning their own names also when writing.

Some Reviews of the Month.

THE ENGLISHWOMAN (Evans Bros., Sardinia House, 1s.). In "Ideals of Liberty," Miss Lowndes discusses the arguments brought forward in *The Nation* with regard to compulsory service. On the ground, she says, that it was open to those who enlisted to stay at home, "the writer conceives we have a right to compel those who join the colours voluntarily to endure all that comes, however events turn out." The argument, she maintains, is almost too puerile to combat. What the remains of our gallant battalions have perhaps the right to question is "the propriety of Britain's compelling them still to endure while she deems it unjust to compel competent men unenlisted at home to support them." For, she points out, "What liberties are there in the ranks to correspond with the freedom from restraint of those who elect to stay at home?"

"Problems of the Day" describes the arrangements that are at last being made by the War Office for replacing men by women as army cooks, and in other capacities in military hospitals, and emphasises the importance of giving these posts to properly trained women. "The fact," says the writer, "that the Assistant County Director, who co-operates in appointing general service women, may be a woman, is of the utmost importance. Men have hardly freed themselves from the idea that women's work comes by instinct, whereas women know that there is no born domestic administrator who cannot be bettered by training and experience."

An article on "How the War Affects Women Teachers," by Helena Normanton, contains a powerful plea for the employment, as substitutes for men, of the numerous experienced women teachers who have been compelled to retire on marriage. At present men teachers are in many cases being replaced by inexperienced young women at an inadequate rate of remuneration. Other articles are "East and West in India," by Mrs. Tabor; "Music," by C. M. Verschoyle; "Feminism in Greek Literature, XI.," by Frederick A. Wright; "Polish Life in Russia Ten Years Ago," by Alice Malpas; "The Inspiration and the Act," by Agnes Crozier Herbertson; and "An Open Letter to Disabled Soldiers" from Mrs. Wright.

There are several articles of special interest in THE FORTNIGHTLY REVIEW this month. One, by Mr. Sidney Low, on "The New Orientation of History" reviews the work of the most influential school of historical writing in the nineteenth century, which was very largely under Teutonic influence. One result of drawing upon German sources was a wide popularisation of the Germanic idea of "racial superiority," a contempt for Latin culture, which showed itself in a cult of "Anglo-Saxon" ancestors, and of "plain blunt Saxon" words, which is now grotesquely paralleled, and even surpassed, in the vainglorious extravagances of Prussians such as Houston Stewart Chamberlain. "Aristophanes the Pacifist," by Dr. Courtney, is a first instalment of the story of Aristophanes' satires on the war-party of the age of Pericles and Cleon; and Mlle. Helène Vacaresco's account of Roumanian marriage customs is of interest to folk-lorists. Reasons are given why the bride and bridegroom should go barefoot to church; and it is surprising to learn that this same custom was observed at royal weddings in England, until Charles I. refused to comply with it. Other articles are on "Carlyle and the German Empire," by Mr. David Alec Wilson, and some verses on the great Serbian tragedy of Kossovo by E. J. Arnold.

THE CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST WOMEN'S FRANCHISE REVIEW (48, Dover Street, quarterly, 2d.) contains an interesting summary of the war work done by the C.U.W.F.A. during the past year, and an article by Mrs. Fabian Ware on the need for "Carrying On." An account is given of the Association's Hostel for educated women thrown out of work by the war, and its various forms of work.

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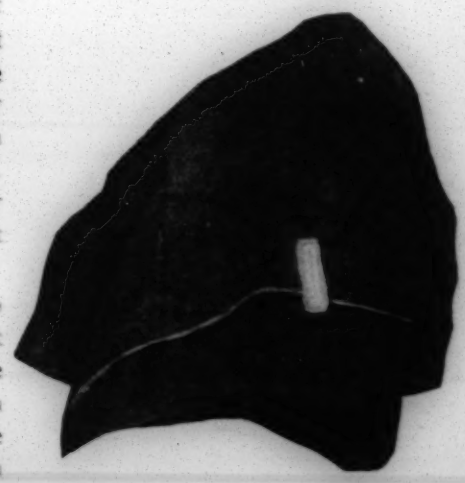

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The Ayah Dust Cloth absorbs it. You can't shake the dust out of the Ayah Cloth. Rinsing it in warm water will cleanse it. The Ayah Dust Cloth cannot scratch. It is oil-less and lintless. Will last many months, and **keeps furniture brilliant.**

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Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: Mrs Henry Fawcett, LL.D.
Hon. Secretaries: Miss Evelyn Atkinson. Mrs. Oliver Strachey (Parliamentary).
Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. Auerbach.
Secretary: Miss Helen Wright.
Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.
Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, London. Telephone—4673 Vic. & 4674 Vic.

The National Union, though it has suspended its political and direct Suffrage propaganda since the war broke out, has continued to be the watch-dog of women's interests in Parliament and in the country, and is always on the look-out for any chance to help women. It has many opportunities to do this, in its central position and with the backing of its hundreds of constituent branches, and fills such an important function in war-time, as well as in peace, that it deserves the financial support of all Suffragists. If every reader of The Common Cause would send a small contribution to Headquarters they would be performing a patrioic duty, as to help women now is to help women to help the country.

Contributions to the General Fund. Fifth List.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged since November 1st, 1915	367	15	8
Received from January 24th to 29th, 1916 :—			
Subscriptions.			
Dr. M. Beatrice Webb	1	1	0
Miss D. Willis		5	0
Miss E. M. Greg	1	1	0
Miss K. B. Brereton		10	6
Miss R. M. Elwin		2	6
Affiliation Fees.			
Wokingham W.S.S.	1	3	9
Hay and District W.S.S. ...		9	6
Paris W.S.S.		5	0
Huddersfield W.S.S.	2	19	0
Brentwood W.S.S.		10	0
Darlington W.S.S.	2	10	0
King's Sutton W.S.S.		12	9
West Bromwich W.S.S. ...	2	10	6
Norwood W.S.S.		12	6
Scarborough W.S.S.	2	8	6
Seaforth and Bootle W.S.S. ...		12	6
Largs W.S.S.		10	0
Derby W.S.S.	2	1	0
	£388	0	8

Fund for Maternity and Relief Work among Refugees in Russia. Fifth List.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged ...	2,289	7	3
Mrs. Percival Gaskell		10	0
The Hon. Mrs. Gilbert Vane	1	1	0
Burton W.S.S.	1	0	0
Mrs. W. A. Tennant	2	0	0
Miss Clare L. Melly	5	0	0
Miss M. Janet Matheson ...	2	0	0
Mrs. H. Turner		5	0
Miss Alice Eames	1	0	0
Miss M. MacFarland and Miss M. E. Coltman	1	0	0
Mrs. C. Prince	1	0	0
Mrs. M. A. Knowles	2	0	0
A Cornish Girl		3	0
Mrs. C. C. Courtauld	10	0	0
Mrs. M. A. Picton	1	1	0
Miss D. Tizard		2	0
Mr. Oliver Godwin	2	0	0
Miss Lucy Mason		10	0
Miss A. L. Hargrove		10	0
Mrs. Prendergast	2	0	0
Mrs. Frank Fremlin	5	0	0
Lady Brocklebank	1	0	0
Miss M. P. Willcocks	1	0	0
Mr. A. G. Guest	1	0	0
Mrs. Chandler		2	6
Mrs. Reginald Caulfeild ...	2	2	0
Sister Leitti		2	6
Bangor W.S.S.	5	0	0
Miss Lamport	5	0	0
Miss E. M. Greg	2	2	0
Miss Maud Morin		10	0
Mrs. Vaizey	2	2	0
Miss C. M. Linnell	1	0	0
Miss L. M. Butts	2	2	0
Highgate Branch of the London Society for W.S. ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Tribe	1	1	0
Mrs. Preston	5	5	0
Miss G. R. Sturrock		10	0
Miss E. M. Rope	1	0	0
Mrs. Schwann	5	0	0
Mrs. Spratt and Mrs. Fraser Shaw	2	0	0
Mrs. Rennie	2	0	0
Mr. Alexander Knight	3	0	0
Tiverton W.S.S.	5	7	6
Miss M. E. Yate	1	0	0
Miss H. Herbert, per Southport W.S.S.		10	0
Mr. I. Bradburn		6	0
An Aged Englishwoman ...	3	0	0
Mrs. F. A. Walters		10	0
C. P.		5	0
Mr. M. O. Fitzgerald	3	0	0
Miss J. C. Alsop		5	0
Mrs. Basworth	1	1	0
The Misses Gater, per Miss M. P. Willcocks		10	0
Mrs. T. Kelsall		2	7
Mrs. Smith Nicol	1	0	0
Mrs. Michael Hill	1	0	0
Mrs. I. M. Eaden		2	6
Mrs. David Morgan		2	6
Mrs. H. B. Spencer		2	6
Mrs. Hayman		5	0
A Belgian Mother, per Miss Edith Wigglesworth		4	0
Lady Alix Egerton	2	0	0
Mr. H. B. Parr	10	0	0
Miss Adelaide E. Grignon ...	5	0	0
Miss Frances L. Lidgett, per Lady Bunting	5	0	0
Miss Annie Leigh Browne ...	5	0	0
Miss A. L. Hyde	1	0	0
Mrs. Dick	2	0	0
Mrs. Rathbone, senr., per Liverpool W.S.S.	15	0	0
Miss Bennett		10	0
Miss Emily S. May	1	0	0
Mrs. Graham	1	1	0
Anonymous	2	2	0
Miss M. A. Pelly	1	0	0
"Asset"		5	0
Miss M. Leonora Simson ...		5	0
Miss K. Barrett		5	0
Miss A. Pickard-Cambridge ...	1	0	0
Miss S. J. Pedder		5	0
Mrs. Flight	1	5	0
Mrs. Renton	1	0	0
Mrs. Stuckey	1	0	0
Mrs. Simpson	3	3	0
Miss Adelaide Baxter	2	2	0
Miss C. Crichton-Stuart ...	1	1	0
Miss Boyle, per Lady Bunting	1	0	0
Miss Evelyn Sanderson ...	1	0	0
Darlington W.S.S.	1	0	0
Mr. and Mrs. Diver, per Darlington W.S.S.		5	0
Dr. Forsyth		5	0
Mrs. E. S. Valentine		2	6
Mrs. Alston		5	0
Mrs. Edwin Gray	1	0	0
Mrs. M. R. Mordan	1	1	0
New Constitutional Society for W.S.S.	2	2	0
Miss Dorothy Tarrant	1	1	0
Miss F. M. Grace Bradford ...	2	0	0
E. E. N.	1	0	0
Mrs. Holland	25	0	0
Mrs. Hillier		5	0
J. M. F.	2	0	0
Miss E. S. A. Atkinson ...	1	0	0
Mrs. E. Nicholson and Sister		4	6
Mrs. Jas. Ashworth		5	0
Mrs. K. C. Franks		10	6
Miss Caulfield		10	0
	£2,494	2	4

Gifts in Kind.

We still need children's clothes, especially for children from eight to sixteen. We have sufficient women's nightgowns, and do not require many more baby clothes. The first lot of clothes has already been scheduled, so there is no hurry for the moment, as another lot will not be sent out for another week.

N.U.W.S.S. SCOTTISH WOMEN'S HOSPITALS

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	82,920	7	1
Cowdenbeath Co-Operative Society Ltd., per Miss Bury	2	2	0
*Students of University Hall, St. Andrews, per Miss M. E. Dobson, Warden, to name "University Hall, St. Andrews" Bed (Royaumont)	50	0	0
E. J. Griffin, Esq.	25	0	0
Miss A. C. Smith	0	10	0
Mrs. R. Cuthbert	1	0	0
Proceeds of Fete held at Coltness, Wishaw, to name "Coltness" Bed (Corsica), per Miss Livingstone, Hon. Sec. and Treas., Scottish Branch British Red Cross Society	50	0	0
M. K. C.	0	10	0
Miss Laura M. Toward (Serbian Refugee Children)	1	12	0
*Association of Women Graduates, Glasgow University, per Miss Margaret Lang, Hon. Treas., further towards upkeep of the X-ray apparatus for Troyes, Proceeds of "At Home" in Queen Margaret College ...	26	10	0
"An anonymous donor," per John B. Mair, Esq. M.V.O. (£5), Elgin Burns Club (£2 2s.) (Serbian Refugees)	7	2	0
Mrs. Hubbard	2	2	0
*Robert M. Stevenson, Esq. ...	25	0	0
*Dunfermline W.S.S., per Mrs. Mackinnon, Hon. Sec., to complete "Dunfermline" Bed (France), 2nd 6 months (£2 6s. 6d.), balance for Serbia (£1 8s. 6d.)	3	15	0
Miss P. Kennedy	1	0	0
*Staff of Dunniker School, Kirkcaldy, per J. Melville, Esq. (Serbia)	2	11	0
Miss Allen	20	0	0
Mrs. A. J. Craig	5	0	0
*2nd donation from Readers of the *Scottish Farmer*, to continue "Scottish Farmers" Bed (Royaumont), per Miss Margaret Shanks	37	0	0
Scholars and Teachers of George Square Congregational Church Mission Sabbath School (Serbia) ...	1	1	0
*Glasgow and West of Scotland W.S.S., Joint Committee for S.W.H., per Miss Morrison, Hon. Treas.: A Friend (Serbia) (5s.), Ayr Pictures (Hospital Slides), per Mrs. Alexander (£33 14s.), Mrs. Blackie (£2), Mrs. Brash, Whist & Musical "At Home," per Miss Millar (£25), Castle Douglas W.S.S. "Bring and Buy" Sale, per Mrs. Campbell, Hon. Treas. (£164 10s. 7d.), Mrs. Eadie, Whist Drive in Scouts' Hall, per Miss Millar (£50 5s.), Employees of Wm. C. Gray & Sons, per Miss McCulloch (£20), Miss Falconer and Miss Grimston (£2 10s.), Farmers of the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright and others, per Patrick Gifford, Esq., half-proceeds Free Gift Sale held in Mr. Wallett's Auction Market, organised and conducted by Mr. Wm. Wallett (£900), to name 6 beds "Stewartry of Kirkcudbright Farmers" Beds (£300) (Corsica), (£600 for Serbia), Mrs. Fullerton, per Miss Dalziel (£10), Thos. Greenlees, Esq., per Miss Greenlees (£30), Jas. Greenlees, Esq. (£5), Mrs. Jas. Greenlees (£5), J. Greenlees, Esq. (£5), Miss Hogarth, 2nd don. (10s.), For "Irvine" Bed (Corsica) (Miss Bartholomew's Recital at Irvine), per Mrs. Gilmour (£50), Mrs. A. C. Latta (Serbia) (£1), Andrew Lees, Esq., per Miss McCulloch (£1 1s.), Miss M. Morrison (5s.), Mrs. Munn, proceeds of Entertainment given by Mrs. Baxter's pupils and friends, to name "3 Rutherglen Children's" Beds (Corsica), per Miss Millar (£78), Mrs. Margaret Jean Ness ("Jean" Bed), per Miss Montgomery (£1), Oil-workers of Broxburn Oil Co., Ltd., per Mr. Montgomerie (£40), For "St. Bride's School, Seniors' Guild, Helensburgh" Bed, per Miss Young (£25) (Royaumont), St. Matthew's U.F. Guild and Girls' Auxiliary, per Miss N. Sinclair (£3 5s.), Mrs. Toms (2nd don.) (10s.), Miss Watt (Serbia) (5s.), Miss Walker's Working Girls' Club (£2), Miss Weir (1s.)	1,456	1	7
Mrs. Buchanan, to name "Campbell" Bed, per Miss Kathleen Burke	25	0	0
*Few Clerks of Leith, Hull, and Hamburg Steam Packet Co., Ltd., per Peter Reid Esq.	2	11	0
*Wm. Murray, Esq., per Mrs. Blair, towards "Mak Merry" Bed	1	0	0
"Tim," per Mrs. Blair, towards "Mak Merry" Bed ...	1	0	0
*Women's Educational Union, per Miss G. M. W. Anderson (for upkeep of "Women's Educational Union" Bed) ...	25	0	0
*21st instalment from "Paisley W.S.S. and Friends, per Miss Todd, Hon. Treas., to name "Paisley John Neilson Institution" Bed (Royaumont)	25	0	0
*Crowthorne W.S.S., per Mrs. Haye	0	5	0
Miss Robertson	0	4	6
	£84,718	4	2

Letter from Auditors.

The following auditors' certificate was inadvertently omitted from the audit of the Hospitals published last week :—

Glasgow, January 11th, 1916.—We have examined the foregoing Accounts with the Books and Vouchers of the Committee for the Scottish Women's Hospitals for Foreign Service. We have satisfied ourselves that the whole receipts have been accounted for in the Cash Books and that the payments made are duly authorised and are in order. We certify the foregoing Statement of Receipts and Payments of the Honorary Treasurer to be correct, according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the Books kept by the Committee. We have verified the Balances in Bank on Current Account and have had exhibited to us the Deposit Receipts for Eleven Thousand Two Hundred and Twenty-nine Pounds, Two Shillings, Sterling.

(Signed) Jno. N. Lochhead & A. H. Brown, C.A., Honorary Auditors.

The Hon. Treasurer begs once more to thank all those who have helped and are helping, and will gratefully acknowledge further donations to carry on the work. Cheques should be sent either to the Hon. Secretary, 2, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh, or to the Hon. Treasurer, Mrs. Laurie, Red House Greenock, and crossed "Royal Bank of Scotland."

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10 x 8	4/3	1/-
12 x 8	4/6	1/-
12 x 10	5/3	1/3

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What Some of Our Societies are Doing.

Manchester and District Federation's Address to Miss Ashton.

The Manchester and District Federation last week presented an address to Councillor Margaret Ashton on her resignation of the chairmanship of the Federation. The address is in the form of an illuminated little book, and runs as follows:—

"Dear Miss Ashton,—It is with deep regret that we have to accept your resignation of the office of chairman of the Manchester and District Federation of Women's Suffrage Societies, and we desire to assure you of the respect and affection of the various branches of this large organisation.

"We recognise how your spirit, animated by lofty and farseeing aspirations, has encouraged us through our varying fortunes since the initiation of the Federation. The women's movement in the North of England owes a great debt of gratitude to your untiring zeal and courage, and it cannot but be a matter of deep sorrow that now, in this crisis of our country's history, the different conceptions that have arisen as to the meaning of the Suffrage movement have forced us to try to achieve our end by different methods.

"But loyalty to an ideal is one of the characteristics which have bound you to us and us to you, and, if our paths are not at the moment identical, it will be in friendship and not in misunderstanding that each of us pursues our goal. Indeed, the hope is still left to us that our paths may some day again converge, and we rejoice that in all our activities we still have your sympathy.

"With grateful acknowledgment of what you have helped us to do in the past and with all hope for the future, believe us yours in affectionate regard."

The address is signed by Lady Rochdale (President), Miss C. D. Simpson (Chairman), Mrs. Thoday (Hon. Secretary), Mrs. Lamb (Hon. Treasurer), other officers, and the representatives on the Federation Committee of all the thirty-four societies.

Rochester and District.

The annual tea and entertainment for members of the two Service Women's Clubs run by the Rochester W.S.S. was held at the Strood Club premises on the last day of the Old Year.

A party of over eighty, adults and children, sat down to tea, and this was followed by an entertainment furnished by local Suffragists. Several musical items were pleasingly rendered by ladies on the committee, and the President and a friend masqueraded as two "Egyptians" in native dress, and presented a duologue for the distraction of the company.

The Rochester S.W. Club has been transferred to new premises, the Co-operative Hall in George-lane having been hired for the purpose. Meetings are held regularly on Tuesdays, and, with reading, games, and music, a pleasant social evening is spent. It is hoped that it may be found practicable in the near future to give addresses to the women on subjects of domestic and national interest.

Tiverton.

On January 18th the second monthly meeting for receiving money and equipment for the Scottish Women's Hospitals was held at Rose Bank by kind invitation of Mrs. Marrack, and was well attended.

More than ninety articles were packed and despatched, as well as £7 2s. received from members and friends during the month.

After tea Miss M. P. Willcocks, the well-known novelist, talked to the gathering on "War Economies" generally, and a lively discussion as to ways and means followed. The speaker also pleaded the claims of the Russian Maternity Unit in such moving terms that all present were eager to help by giving money or making clothes.

Very sincere votes of thanks were passed to Miss Willcocks for her delightfully instructive and helpful talk and to Mrs. Marrack for tea and the use of her drawing-room. Mrs. Marrack, though not a member of the N.U., is a very keen worker for women in her capacity of Poor Law Guardian, Chairman of the Tiverton Women's Liberal Association, and as member of the local Education Committee.

As the result of a collection at the meeting and of a letter sent to the local Press, we were able to send £4 7s. 6d. to the Maternity Unit.

Forthcoming Meetings.

FEBRUARY 4.

Birmingham—Social Workers' Guild, 3, New Street—Mrs. Ring, on "Training" 8 p.m.

Edinburgh—40, Shandwick Place—"At Home"—Speaker, Miss Alice Low—Subject, "War Work and Women" 4.30 p.m.

Scarborough — Municipal Schools — Lantern Lecture on "Hospital Work in France and Serbia," by Miss Beatrice Hunter—Chair, The Mayoress 8 p.m.

Walsall — Technical Schools — Food Economy Lecture 6 p.m.

Wandsworth—Stanwell House, 24, Lyford Road, Wandsworth Common—Hostess, Mrs. Dicksee—Speaker, Hon. Mrs. Spencer Graves on "Women's Response to their Country's Call" 3 p.m.

FEBRUARY 5.

Glasgow—Meeting at Y.W.C.A., Bath Street—Speakers, Miss E. M. C. Foggo, on the Scottish Women's Hospitals (with slides), and Mrs. Crewe, lately returned from Serbia

FEBRUARY 6.

Glasgow—Jewish Literary Society, Grand Masonic Hall—Speaker, Miss E. M. C. Foggo, on the Scottish Women's Hospitals 6.45

FEBRUARY 7.

Birmingham — Bournville Schools — "Food Economy" 3 p.m.

Bearwood Women's Co-operative Guild—Mrs. Ring on "Women and Internationalism" 8 p.m.

FEBRUARY 9.

Hitchin—Annual Meeting of the Hitchin, Stevenage, and District W.S.S. at "The Welcome," Raynes Park—Chair, Miss Tuke—Speaker, Miss Douglas Irvine, on "The Work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals" 2.45

FEBRUARY 10.

Highgate—Study Circle, at 3, Holly Terrace, Highgate—Subject, "War and Democracy" 2nd and 4th Thursdays, 3—4 p.m.

Scottish Women's Hospitals, London Units.

Tuesday, February 8th.—A Lantern Lecture on the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals will be given by Miss Hunter at the Froebel Institute, Colet Gardens, Talgarth Road, Kensington, at 4.30.

Wednesday, February 9th.—Hitchin W.S.S. Annual Meeting—A Lantern Lecture on her experiences in Serbia with the Scottish Women's Hospitals will be given by Miss Douglas Irvine. The Chair will be taken at 3.30 by Miss Tuke.

Wednesday, February 9th.—At Croydon Girls' High School, a Lantern Lecture will be given to pupils and friends by Miss Hunter on the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals, at 3 p.m.

Thursday, February 10th.—A Lantern Lecture will be given by Miss Hunter at Caldecote Towers, Bushey Heath, to pupils and friends, at 7.45 p.m., on the work of the Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Working Parties.

Birkenhead—Theosophical Society's Rooms, 48A, Hamilton Street—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals 2nd and 4th Monday in the month, 2.0

Blackheath and Greenwich Sewing Party for Scottish Women's Hospital—at 8, Shooter's Hill Road—Hostess, Mrs. Monk Every Tuesday, 2.0—6.0

Bolton—Suffrage Shop, Bradshawgate—Working Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Monday, 2.30, and every Thursday at 8.0

Bridlington—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Wednesday, 3.0—6.0

Bristol—Working Party at 40, Park Street 3.0 p.m.

Buxton—At Collinson's Café—Sewing Meeting for Manchester and District Field Hospital—Visitors invited Every Thursday, 2.30

Chiswick and Bedford Park—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Thursday, 3 to 6 p.m.

Croydon—Working Party every Monday for Serbian Unit, at Walden, Stanhope Road. This address is the depôt for the Surrey, Sussex, and Hants Federation, where all work and appliances can be sent.

Eastbourne—At the Club, 134, Terminus Road—Sewing Party for the N.U.W.S.S. Hospitals in France and Serbia Every Monday, 2.30—4.30

Guildford and District—Working Party for Scottish Women's Hospitals and Russian Maternity Unit, at the Office, 1A, Mount Street Fridays, 3.0—6.0

Huddersfield—Sewing Meetings will be held at the Office, 41 Spring Street Every Tuesday, 2.30

Paddington—31, Hatherley Grove, Westbourne Grove (by kind permission of Messrs. William Owen, Ltd.)—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every day, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Redhill—At Miss Woodward's, 10, Fengates Road—Sewing Party Every Wednesday, 2.15

Reigate—For N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals and Maternity Unit for Polish Refugees—At Mrs. Powell's, Aldersyde—January 31st, and elsewhere on alternate Mondays 2.30

Scarborough—6, Falconer Chambers—Working Party Every Tuesday, 2.45

Shipley and Baildon—Ladies' Parlour of Saltaire Congregational Church School—Sewing Meeting on January 20th and on alternate Thursdays 2.30

Solihull—Church House—Working Party for making comforts for the Italian troops Every Monday, 3.0

South Kensington—Belgian Hostel, 1, Argyll Road—Working Party for London Units of the N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals Every Tuesday and Friday, 2 to 4.30

Wakefield—"The Laurels," St. John's North—Sewing Party. Every Wednesday, 2.30—6.0 and 7.0—9.0

Warwick and Leamington—35, Warwick Street, Leamington—Working Party to make Sand Bags Every Tuesday and Friday, 2.30

Announcements.

Owing to a change of tenancy at the Vaudeville Theatre, the PIONEER PLAYERS have been obliged to postpone their performance, which was to have taken place there on January 30th, until next Sunday, February 6th, when the three plays which were to have been produced there will be given at the Court Theatre (by kind permission of Mr. Otho Stuart), at 5 o'clock. These are "The Conference," by "Delphin Gray"; "Pan in Ambush," by Marjorie Patterson"; and "The Dear Departing," by L. Andreiev.

In aid of their Camps Entertainments Fund, THE WOMAN'S THEATRE (2, Robert Street, Adelphi) will shortly give a series of miniature matinees. During the past year eleven centres have been visited, with the consent of the Army Council, and 195 entertainments given, in addition to a large number of free concerts in hospitals and for the Church Army.

A concert in aid of the "MOTHERS' ARMS" and BABIES' MILK AND CLINICS FUND in East London will be given in the Æolian Hall, New Bond Street, W., on Saturday, February 5th, at 3.15. Tickets, 1s.—7s. 6d.

A BRITISH WOMEN-WORKERS' EXHIBITION will be opened on May 1st at Prince's Skating Club, Knightsbridge, and will last three weeks. It will be a comprehensive exhibition of women's work, intended to furnish new ideas to women for gaining a living. The Executive Offices are at 39, Victoria-street, Westminster.

A WAR-TIME INTERCESSION SERVICE (arranged by the C.L.W.S. in connection with the "League of Honour" Prayer Week) will be held at 3 p.m., in St. Martin-in-the-Fields, on Saturday, February 5th. Preacher, The Right Rev. Lord Bishop of Stepney.

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